RESOLUTION NO. 14-125

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT OF THE BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN (BDCP) FOR RELIABLE WATER SUPPLIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION

WHEREAS, water supplies from Northern California that move across the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta are vital to the economy of California, serving 25 million people from the Bay Area to the Mexican border and agriculture throughout the Central Valley; and

WHEREAS, the Delta is in a state of environmental stress due to the loss of wetlands habitat, invasive species, pesticide runoff, a depletion of native food supplies, pumping operations and other factors; and

WHEREAS, the decline in the Delta’s health threatens this unique environment and water supplies that are key to the California economy; and

WHEREAS, the failure to take decisive actions would be an unacceptable risk to the environment of the Delta and the economy of California; and

WHEREAS, out of all the proposed BDCP alternative plans examined by the state, Alternative Number 4 was designated as the state’s preferred alternative for the BDCP; and

WHEREAS, the state’s preferred alternative is the most promising plan developed to date to solve Delta challenges and resolve decades of conflicts between agricultural, urban and environmental water users with a comprehensive solution that achieves California’s Co-Equal goals of a reliable water supply and a restored Delta ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, the City of Glendale is supportive of the proposed twin-tunnel conveyance system that isolates and protects drinking water supplies and helps restore natural flow patterns in the Delta for the benefit of native species as well as the complementary habitat restoration, water quality and predator control measures outlined in the BDCP as described in the Report dated July 22, 2014 by the General Manager of the Glendale Water and Power Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA:

SECTION 1. That, the City Council hereby supports the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), specifically Alternative Number 4, which is the state’s preferred alternative, and focuses efforts on resolving those remaining issues needed to provide assurances that the plan will achieve California’s co-equal goals of water supply reliability and ecosystem restoration in a cost effective manner.

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SECTION 2. That, the City of Glendale urges the state to move forward with the draft BDCP for the reasons so stated herein.

Adopted by the Council of the City of Glendale on this 29th day of July, 2014.

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ATTEST:

City Clerk

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

I, Ardashes Kassakhian, City Clerk of the City of Glendale, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 14-125 was adopted by a majority vote of the Council of the City of Glendale, California, at a regular meeting held on the 29th day of July, 2014, and that the same was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Devine, Friedman, Najarian, Sinanyan

Noes: Weaver

Absent: None

Abstain: None

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM

DATE 4/14/14

Assistant City Attorney
AGENDA ITEM
Report: The Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP); Recommendation for the Support of the BDCP, specifically the State of California's preferred Alternative Number 4 in the Draft Environmental Impact Section (EIS), to Improve Water Supply Reliability and Environmental Restoration

1. Resolution in Support of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan for reliable water supplies and environmental restoration

COUNCIL ACTION
Public Hearing □ Ordinance □ Consent Calendar □ Action Item □ Report Only □
Approved for July 29, 2014 calendar

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION
Signature

Submitted by:
Stephne M. Zurn, General Manager - GWP

Prepared by:
Ramon Z. Abueg, Chief Assistant General Manager

Approved by:
Scott Ochoa, City Manager

Reviewed by:
Yasmin K. Beers, Assistant City Manager

Michael J. Garcia, City Attorney

Bob Elliot, Director of Finance and Administrative Services
RECOMMENDATION
Glendale Water and Power (GWP) staff respectfully recommends that the City Council adopt a Resolution in support of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), specifically the State of California's preferred Alternative Number 4 in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), to improve water supply reliability and environmental restoration.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS
The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) is a critical link in California's water supply system. Freshwater originating in the Sierra Nevada and eastern coastal range flows to the Delta, providing water supplies for 25 million Californians and the economies of the San Francisco Bay Area, the Central Valley, and Southern California. This water irrigates farms where much of the nation's domestic fresh produce is grown. The Delta supports critical infrastructure of statewide importance, including energy transmission lines; transportation routes for ships, trains and trucks; and water delivery structures.

The implementation of the proposed Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) conveyance facilities and habitat protection and restoration are expected to have temporary and permanent impacts on the Delta. The draft plan and environmental documents identify 16 options for addressing the current challenges with California's water supply delivery system and the Delta ecosystem. Alternative Number 4, which provides for three new intakes on the Sacramento River in the northern Delta and a 9,000 cubic feet per second (67,325 gallons per second) tunnel system to convey that water to the existing aqueduct system, coupled with a comprehensive habitat conservation plan for the Delta, is the best alternative to meet California's co-equal goals of water supply reliability and Delta ecosystem restoration.

The construction of new water intakes and related conveyance is an essential element of the BDCP. The proposed twin tunnel system will protect public water supplies if a seismic event were to trigger levee breaks and cause saltwater to intrude from San Francisco Bay. The new intakes in the northern Delta will reduce conflicts between water systems and migrating fish species such as salmon. Habitat improvements will provide native species with the healthy ecosystems they need to survive. Fifty years of regulatory stability will protect an estimated 1.1 million jobs throughout the state and create more than 177,000 jobs from construction projects and environmental restoration.

Southern California depends on imported water for approximately 50% of its water needs for the entire region. Approximately 70% of the water used in the City of Glendale is imported water, a portion of which originates from the Bay-Delta Area.

As indicated above, Alternative Number 4 provides for three new intakes on the Sacramento River in the northern Delta to convey water, via two new tunnels, to the existing aqueduct system. The plan also incorporates comprehensive habitat conservation plan for the Delta. GWP receives up to 70% of Glendale's water supplies from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWDC), which relies heavily on imported water from the Delta via the State Water Project. GWP continues to diversify its water supply portfolio to further reduce reliance on imported water, including enhanced water conservation and recycled water programs. However, like the rest of southern California, GWP will continue to have a long-term reliance on cost-effective imported water supplies such as from the Delta and, hence, is in support of a Delta fix to avoid further reductions in imported supplies.
FISCAL IMPACT
The recommended action herein will have no impact on the Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget. Any future costs for implementation of the BDCP will be incorporated into the GWP Water Division budget and submitted to City Council for approval during the normal budget process.

ALTERNATIVES
Alternative 1: City Council may adopt a Resolution supporting the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), specifically the State of California's preferred Alternative Number 4 in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), to improve water supply reliability and environmental restoration.

Alternative 2: The City Council may elect to not adopt the Resolution in support as recommended herein.

Alternative 3: The City Council may consider any other alternative not proposed by staff.

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE
Not applicable.

EXHIBITS
Exhibit 1: BDCP Summary
The BDCP is...
...a long-term strategy to secure California's water supplies and improve the ecosystem of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.

The BDCP Co-Equal Goals

WATER SUPPLY RELIABILITY
- 3 INTAKES
- 2 GRAVITY FLOW TUNNELS
- 30 MILES IN LENGTH
- 9,000 CFS* CAPACITY

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION
- 145,000 ACRES OF RESTORED AND PROTECTED HABITAT
- 57 PROTECTED SPECIES
- IMPROVED FLOW CONDITIONS TO BENEFIT FISH IN THE DELTA

The BDCP Would Benefit Millions of Californians

The BDCP is one part of California's overall water portfolio. It aims to protect our unique Delta ecosystem and secure water supplies for a vast part of the California economy.

SECURING WATER SUPPLIES

4.7-5.6 MILLION ACRE-FEET ON AVERAGE ANNUALLY
(An acre-foot is roughly as much water as two California households use, indoors and outdoors, in a year)

CREATING & PROTECTING JOBS

1.1 MILLION FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT JOBS CREATED AND SAVED FOR CALIFORNIA
(Based on a year by year estimate)

BOOSTING THE ECONOMY

$84 BILLION INCREASE IN STATE ECONOMIC PRODUCTIVITY

The BDCP is Important for California

WATER SUPPLY RELIABILITY
- 25 MILLION PEOPLE
- MORE THAN 3 MILLION ACRES OF FARMLAND rely on water from the Delta

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION
- DELTA FISH AND WILDLIFE depend upon a healthy Delta ecosystem

CLIMATE RISK ADAPTATION
- LEVEE FAILURES
- RISING SEA LEVELS
- EARTHQUAKES
- NATURAL RISKS AND CLIMATE CHANGE threaten the reliability of the existing system

from the Bay Area to San Diego rely on water from the Delta
The BDCP is Guided by the Best Available Science

ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM to implement and monitor BDCP biological goals and objectives.

WATER OPERATIONS by the Department of Water Resources and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

OVERSIGHT by state and federal fish and wildlife agencies.

The BDCP Would Benefit the Delta Ecosystem

DELTA RESTORATION

BDCP would contribute to the conservation of 57 species of fish, plants and wildlife in the Delta.

46 SPECIES OF PLANTS & WILDLIFE CONSERVED would be conserved through protection and enhancements in the quantity and quality of habitat in the Delta.

52% INCREASE IN PROTECTED LAND in the Delta.

11 FISH SPECIES BENEFIT, from an increase in the amount and quality of habitat, food sources, and ecological function of Delta flows. Species include Chinook salmon and delta smelt.

10 OTHER STRESSOR REDUCTION MEASURES would reduce adverse effects, such as invasive species, predation, and contaminants, to improve the ecological function of the Delta.